

NICKERSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 19, 2024, 5:30 PM City Hall 15 N Nickerson Street

- Pledge of Allegiance
Council and audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance
- Call to Order
Mayor Ruebke called the Monday, August 18, 2024, council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- Roll Call
PRESENT - Berridge, Willhaus, Burris, Murphy, Richard ABSENT – Rohling
- Consent Agenda
 - a) July 15, 2024, Meeting Minutes
 - b) Agenda
 - c) August 19, 2024, PayablesMotion made and seconded by Council Member Richard and Council Member Murphy to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Richard, Berridge, Willhaus, Burris, Murphy NO – None
- City Attorney - each item limited to 15 minutes
- Public Comments - limited to 5 minutes
- Old Business - each item limited to 15 minutes

1. Cemetery Tree Quotes

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Burris to accept Daily Enterprises cemetery tree removal bid for \$14,400.00. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Murphy, Richard, Berridge, Willhaus, Burris NO – None

- New Business - each item limited to 15 minutes

1. Recreation Commission Clarification and Direction Discussion

Discussion between the Nickerson Recreation Commission members and council regarding council's desires for the recreation program going forward. Mayor Ruebke volunteered to attend the next Rec meeting to help look at ways to expand the program to fit the needs and desires of the community.

2. Kansas League of Municipalities Voting Delegate Designation

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Burris to appoint Mayor Ruebke as the League of Kansas voting delegate for the 2024 conference. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Burris, Murphy, Richard, Berridge, Willhaus NO - None

3. Executive Session to Discuss Non-Elected Personnel

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Richard and Council Member Murphy to recess into executive session regarding an employee policy violation, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel; to include the city clerk and city attorney; with the open meeting to resume at 5:55 p.m. in the city council chambers.

Motion passed by a show of hands. Mayor Ruebke called the meeting back to order at 5:55 p.m. No decisions were made. Motion made and seconded by Council Member Richard and Council Member Burris to recess into executive session regarding an employee policy violation, pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel; to include the city clerk and city attorney; with the open meeting to resume at 6:01 p.m. in the city council chambers. Motion passed by a show of hands. Mayor Ruebke called the meeting back to order at 6:01 p.m. No decisions were made. Motion made and seconded by Council member Richard and Council Member Berridge to change the employee drug testing policy from random testing to new hire, accident, and suspicion. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Richard, Berridge, Willhaus, Burris, Murphy NO - None

4. Use of ATVs on City Streets Discussion

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Willhaus to table the discussion to the September 16, 2024, council meeting to allow Council Member Rohling to be present. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Berridge, Willhaus, Burris, Murphy, Richard NO - None

5. Code Enforcement

Clerk Beshears explained the difficulties staff has enforcing the code and abating violations that are not resolved or even acknowledged by the violator. Discussion ensued and council directed staff to ticket the violation and work with the violator if they continue to make progress towards resolution and if nothing has been done or discussed following the 10-day notice Clerk Beshears will work with our attorney to start the process to contract with an outside contractor to complete the clean-up.

6. Donation Request from Reno County Fire District 3

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Burris and Council Member Richard to donate \$1128.14 to the Reno County Fire District 3 to assist in the purchase of an AED machine. Motion passed by the following vote: YES - Richard, Berridge, Willhaus, Burris, Murphy NO – None

- Officers Report - each limited to 5 minutes

Murphy

Thanked maintenance staff for getting the sidewalk project started and reported that he has heard positive comments regarding the clean-up happening in his neighborhood.

Willhaus

Reported that the cemetery is being mowed this week and that maintenance has been cleaning the storm drains following the repaving done by the State.

Burris

Thanked the office staff for dealing with all the situations that come into the office. Thanked the council and mayor for their support in allowing him to participate in the meetings by phone when needed.

Berridge

Thanked the office girls and mayor for their work. Recognized the Reno County Sheriff for the quick response times and for door checking. Thanked the community center cleaning lady for

the outstanding job she does keeping the building looking nice. Reported that the 10–12-year-old kids he's been talking to would like to see climbing equipment and more swings at the park. Mayor Ruebke stated she would look at what's available. Thanked the maintenance crew for the nice job they are doing on the sidewalks.

Richard

Reported that the streets and dirt roads are looking good and questioned a rumor that grates were going to need to be purchased for the storm drains on Nickerson Street because of the resurfacing done by the State. Josh confirmed that something is going to have to be done due to the depth of some of them, but it hasn't been decided what that something will be.

Administration

Clerk Beshears reported that Josh and Casey have completed the locating and reporting of the service line inventory mandated by KDHE and will work to get all the information submitted to the state. Council Member Richard questioned if a survey of each home would still be required. It is unclear at this point but once Casey hears back from KDHE we will start that process if necessary.

Mayor

Reported that the First Impressions trip to Caldwell Kansas is scheduled for tomorrow. She has several other meetings coming up and will report back if anything transpires from those meetings.

- Adjournment

Motion made and seconded by Council Member Berridge and Council Member Willhaus to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. Motion passed by a show of hands.